

'Europe is our duty of care'



We are the future generation, and we will inherit the states greatly defined by our parents and grand-parents. Our voices are constantly ignored, and we are dismissed as 'naïve' and 'idealistic', a reason why we are often left out of political discussions. Yet we must not let our concerns be dismissed, for it is our future trampled upon and our future that we will live in. Europe is currently undertaken by the whirlwinds of change, the question is will our youth also make our mark?

**Cherelle Margareth Malongo, St Angela's
Ursuline Sixth Form**

Applying for: CHAIRPERSON

WHY GO FOR CHAIRPERSON?

Frankly 2016 was a momentous year not only for British citizens like me, but it placed a huge question mark on the future of Europe as a whole. The people have spoken, but it was shocking how the long-running cracks in this union were raised suddenly (mostly on worries of immigration, that ultimately became a campaign of fearmongering). This spurred me on to consider the position of chairperson, one that I wouldn't normally consider, in fear that I would be dreadfully unsuitable. For years my identity as an European was uncertain, I was born in Britain but the idea of 'one nation' didn't apply, as I was exposed to others, and could someone with hybrid cultures truly be 'European', can you be black European? Well, the answer is yes. As on June 23rd, it doesn't matter what was your background, as we all felt that: whether it may have been liberating or for me years of uncertainty. As chairperson, I hope to promote these ideas of unity, and explore what it means to be European. I want to empower our youth, in times of our future being jeopardised, and times we need their voices towards a better future. I look towards, not only representing myEurope, but the idea of a New Europe, where our strength is cohesiveness, not segregation, not false sense of pride in imperial, extensive histories, but recognising we are Europe's stewards, and a peaceful, stable future is what we **all** must strive towards.

MY RECORD:

- Winner of London's 'My Europe' writing contest in 2016
- Active within my school community as anti-bullying ambassador, co-founder of the feminist society, and on the student leadership team.
- Has attended Model United Nations Falufri on two occasions, and in the most recent won 'best delegation'.
- Has tackled social issues through the playwriting initiative of National Theatre New Views, with my play 'longlisted' by the National Theatre.
- Explored the issue of 'masculinity' through the Raw Minds 'Macho' late night spectacular at the Wellcome Collection, in collaboration with Non-Zero One.

'Vote Cherelle for Chair'